

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181229

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. REASONS BEHIND MIYAZAWA STATEMENTS ON CHINA POLICY

EMBASSY TOKYO REPORTS THAT SPECULATION IS RIFE ABOUT THE REASONS FOR FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA'S COMMENTS TO SENATOR MANSFIELD AND THE DIET. IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW:

--MIYAZAWA IS NOT OPPOSED TO US-PRC NORMALIZATION, BUT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE TIMING AND TERMS.

--MIYAZAWA'S DIET STATEMENT CRITICIZING CHINESE SUPPORT FOR THE JAPANESE POSITION ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES SUGGESTS THAT HE SEES LITTLE HOPE FOR MOVEMENT ON THE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY DURING HIS TENURE.

--DOMESTICALLY, MIYAZAWA MUST HAVE CALCULATED THAT
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BACKING FROM CONSERVATIVE POWER BROKERS WOULD BE MORE

USEFUL IN REALIZING HIS GOALS OF FUTURE CABINET POSTS
THAN HELP FROM LIBERALS LIKE MIKI. (CONFIDENTIAL)
TOKYO 10983, 7/21.)

2. PERU: ARBULU'S STAR RISING

IN EMBASSY LIMA'S VIEW, PRIME MINISTER ARBULU'S STRONG CONTROL OVER THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD ENHANCE HIS POLITICAL POSITION. ACCORDING TO A POLITICAL ADVISER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE:

--AS THE FIRST PRIME MINISTER TO ENJOY WIDE PERSONAL SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE TOP ARMY RANKS, ARBULU WILL EXERCISE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE OVER PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ.

--ARBULU IS MORE CONSERVATIVE AND AMBITIOUS THAN THE PRESIDENT AND MAY MOVE TO OUST HIM WITHIN A YEAR.

THE EMBASSY ADDS THAT, WHILE THE GOP MAY COOPERATE WITH APRA IN LIMITED AREAS:

--THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS LIKELY TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO RETAIN POWER AT LEAST UNTIL THE ECONOMIC CRISIS PASSES; AND

--ANTI-APRA SENTIMENT PERSISTS AMONG BOTH SENIOR AND JUNIOR MILITARY OFFICERS, AND ARBULU HIMSELF IS SAID TO BE NO FRIEND OF THE PARTY. (CONFIDENTIAL) LIME 6628, 7/21.)

3. SCHMIDT SNATCHES A PUBLICITY SETBACK FROM THE JAWS OF TRIUMPH

EMBASSY BONN REPORTS THAT FRG MEDIA PRAISED CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S RECENT US VISIT, COMMENTING THAT:

--THE END OF OFFSET PAYMENTS WAS A PERSONAL TRIUMPH FOR THE CHANCELLOR.

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--FRG AGREEMENT TO FUND A LARGE SHARE OF NORTHAG INITIAL STATIONING COSTS REPRESENTED A PROPER GERMAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMON DEFENSE.

THE CHANCELLOR'S CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED PRESS CAMPAIGN WENT AWAY; HOWEVER, WHEN HIS REMARKS ON THE ITALIAN ELECTIONS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PUSHED THE OFFSET/NORTHAG STORY OFF THE FRONT PAGES.

EMBASSY COMMENT: IT MUST HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY GALLING TO SCHMIDT TO HAVE THE ITALIAN STORY REPLACE THE OFFSET/NORTHAG ONE IN THE MEDIA. NO LONGER WAS THE EMPHASIS ON

CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT USING AN INTERNATIONAL VISIT SIMULTANEOUSLY TO DEFEND GERMANY'S NATIONAL INTERESTS AND TO IMPROVE NATO DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES, BUT RATHER ON "SCHMIDT THE LIP," TALKING WHEN HE SHOULD HAVE KEPT SILENT. (CONFIDENTIAL) BONN 12320, 7/21.) ROBINSON

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